

# COMMODITY MARKETS

## Week's Wholesale Review

Dun's Bulletin says of Montreal trade:—The great Victory Bond parade and holiday made a somewhat broken business week, and there has been little change in conditions as outlined a week ago. The first touch of real wintry weather has had a stimulating effect on retail sales of seasonable dry goods, clothing, furs, etc., and general collections leave little ground for complaint.

The close of navigation is near at hand, and night navigation by ocean-going vessels ceased on the 20th inst., the Department of Marine, taking up the channel gas buoys, but there are a number of lake boats, both American and Canadian, yet to come through the canals, destined for ocean service, and it is hoped to keep the port open until the first week in December.

Wholesalers of dry goods report no slackening in the volume of business, travellers sending in orders, while a goodly number of house sales are being made to visiting buyers.

In the shoe and leather trade business is still of a quiet order, but values are firmly held.

In general hardware, paints, etc., the movement is of an average seasonable character.

In the grocery line there is little new. The sugar situation is unchanged. Canned goods are strongly held, offers of \$2.60 for a round lot of 2½ lb. tomatoes being refused, it is reported, with sales of corn at \$2.40. Cured meats move rather slowly at the moment, but prices are steady.

The lumber trade remains quiet, and the number of men going into the woods this fall will be small.

There is some increase in the failure list, ten district insolvencies being reported for the week, with liabilities of about \$200,000.

Bradstreet's Montreal Weekly Trade Report says: The colder weather we have had during the past week has created a much better demand for woollens of all kinds, also for heavy clothing. A good many sorting orders were received by the dry goods houses for immediate shipment before the close of navigation, the trade are also anxious to get as many of their orders filled as possible, preparatory to their annual inventory, as a good many of the trade take stock at this season of the year. The movement in groceries is normal, the sugar shortage is gradually being overcome, the high prices paid for molasses is curtailing the sales. The trade statistics for the past seven months aggregate \$1,586,616,258, as compared with \$1,313,189,951 for the same period last year, being an increase of over \$273,000,000.

There is a very heavy demand for mill feed, and prices are somewhat higher. The butter market is easier, sales this week being 1c to 1½c per pound lower than a week ago. Cheese is fractionally easier. Beans are coming forward more freely, and prices are easier, it is reported that some foreign beans are also on the way to this market. Pork products are commanding higher prices. There is a good demand for Canadian hay from American buyers, and supplies are going forward as quickly as cars can be supplied, the Canadian Government is also a liberal buyer. There seems to be plenty of money in the country, so that remittances are coming in well. City collections are slowly improving.

### LIVESTOCK.

MONTREAL.—At the two Montreal Stock yards the offerings last week amounted to 1,700 cattle, 4,300 sheep and lambs, 2,350 hogs and 600 calves. The supplies of cattle on the opening day were very liberal and led to a weak feeling and a decline in price of 25c per 100 lbs. Good and choice steers were very limited in number, and the quality of the rest of the stock was very indifferent. The market on the whole was inactive, and continued to be so on Wednesday. A stronger feeling developed in the market for lambs and prices advanced 25c to 50c per 100 lbs. and an active trade was done. On Wednesday the tone of the market remained firm with prices at Monday's advance. There was a good demand for supplies for both local account and for shipment to the United States, and sales of Ontario stock were made at \$15.50 to \$15.75, and Quebec at \$14.50 to \$14.75, while sheep sold at \$9.50 to \$11 per 100 lbs. The trade in calves was good and prices were unchanged at \$11 to \$14 per 100 lbs. for good to choice milk-fed stock, and at \$6.50 to \$10 for the lower grades. On Monday the offerings of hogs were rather small

and the demand from packers good, so the market developed a strong tone, and prices advanced 25c per 100 lbs. On Wednesday the market developed further strength, and prices scored another advance of 25c to 50c per 100 lbs., which was attributed to the continued upward tendency of values at other Canadian centres, the comparatively small offerings here and the good demand from packers. The trade was fairly active with sales of selected lots at \$18 to \$18.25 per 100 lbs., weighed off cars.

#### Quotations:

##### Butchers' steers, per 100 lbs.

Do., choice	9.75	10.00
Do., good	9.25	9.50
Do., fairly good	8.75	9.00
Do., fair	8.25	8.50
Do., common	7.75	8.00

##### Butchers' Cows:

Do., choice	7.50	7.75
Do., good	7.00	7.25
Do., fair	6.50	6.75
Bulls, choice	7.75	8.00
Do., good	7.25	7.50
Do., medium	6.75	7.00
Do., common	6.25	6.50

##### Canners' cattle:

Do., bulls	6.25	
Do., cows	5.00	5.25

##### Sheep and Lambs:

Ewes	10.50	11.00
Bucks	9.50	10.00
Ontario lambs	15.50	15.75
Quebec lambs	14.50	14.75

##### Calves, per 100 lbs.:

Do., choice milkfed stock	13.00	14.00
Do., good milkfed stock	11.00	12.00
Do., Grassfed stock	6.50	10.00

##### Hogs.

Do., choice selects	17.50	18.00
Sows	14.50	15.00
Stags	12.50	13.00

TORONTO.—The offerings at Toronto's two markets for the week ending November 24, amounted to 8,090 cattle, 550 calves, 11,288 hogs and 8,926 sheep and lambs. At Monday's market good quality cattle were scarce at steady prices, but common butchers' were easier. Hogs were firm. At Tuesday's sale the quality of the offerings was poor, and the run light. The tone of the sheep trade became strong, and hogs were firm on Wednesday. On Thursday, cattle were in good demand at strong prices, and hogs advanced to \$18.25 fed, and sheep were firm. On Friday, hogs became easier, the cattle market held steady and sheep remained firm.

#### Quotations:

Choice export steers	11.50	12.25
Butchers' choice handy	10.25	11.00
Do., good	9.50	10.00
Do., medium	8.50	8.75
Do., common	7.50	8.00
Butchers' bulls, choice	8.00	9.25
Do., good	7.50	8.25
Do., medium	6.25	7.25
Butchers' choice cows	8.25	9.00
Do., good	7.25	8.00
Do., medium	6.50	7.00
Feeders	8.00	9.25
Stockers, good	7.25	8.00
Do., medium	6.50	7.00
Canners	4.75	5.10
Milkers, good to choice	90.00	125.00
Do., common and medium	65.00	85.00
Calves, veal, choice	15.00	15.50
Do., medium	6.00	6.50
Do., common	6.00	7.00
Do., grass	6.00	7.00
Do., heavy fat	8.00	10.50
Spring lambs, cwt.	16.50	17.00
Sheep ewes, light	8.50	14.00
Do., heavy and bucks	7.50	9.50
Do., culls	4.00	5.50
Hogs, fed and watered	18.00	18.25
Do., off cars	18.25	18.50
Do., f.o.b.	17.00	17.25

### COUNTRY PRODUCE.

#### BUTTER.

The receipts of butter for the week ending Nov. 24 were 4,233 packages—2,915 packages less than those of a week ago, and over 2,374 packages below those of the same week last year. The tone of the market throughout the week was weak and prices scored a

decline. At the auction sale held here on Tuesday, the offerings sold 1c to 1½c per lb. lower than last week, pasteurized selling at 42½c per lb., finest at 42½c, and fine at 41½c, while at Gould's Cold Storage sales were made at 1c to 2c per lb. less at 40c to 41c f.o.b. country points, and at St. Hyacinthe to-day prices were 2c to 3c per lb. off as compared with two weeks ago, at 39c to 40c. The trade on spot in a wholesale way has been rather quiet. There was some demand for round lots of current receipts of fine creamery, and several sales were made at 41½c to 42c per lb. We quote wholesale prices as follows:

Finest Sept. and Oct. creamery . . . 0.44½ 0.45

Fine Sept. and Oct. creamery . . . 0.43½ 0.44

Current receipts, creamery . . . 0.41½ 0.42½

Finest dairy . . . 0.38 0.39

Lower grades . . . 0.36½ 0.37½

### CHEESE.

The receipts of cheese for the week ending Nov. 24th, 1917, were 22,883 boxes, showing a decrease of 11,380 boxes as compared with those of the previous week, and a decrease of 382,052 boxes, as compared with the same week last year. Of the total receipts for the same week last year there were 3,065 boxes received from the United States. The market for cheese was very quiet during the week, as most of the factories throughout the country have closed for the season. The highest price paid in the country was 21½c per lb. at St. Hyacinthe Saturday, which is an advance of ¼c per lb., as compared with two weeks ago. The offerings at Cornwall and Napanee were sold at 21½c, and at Picton at 21½c, which prices were the same as last week.

The Commission is paying the following prices:—

No. 1 cheese	21½c
No. 2 cheese	21¼c
No. 3 cheese	20¾c

### POULTRY.

Although all lines of dressed poultry increased during last week, the tone of the market was strong for good to choice stock, due to the demand being in excess of the supply. The arrivals of live poultry continue fairly liberal, for which there has been a steady demand at firm prices.

We quote prices as follows:—

Turkeys, per lb.	0.28	0.29
Chickens, per lb.	0.24	0.28
Fowl, per lb.	0.20	0.24
Ducks, per lb.	0.24	0.25
Geese, per lb.	0.18	0.19
Live turkeys, per lb.	0.23	
Live chickens, per lb.	0.18	0.22
Live ducks, per lb.	0.24	0.25
Live geese, per lb.	0.20	0.21

### EGGS.

The receipts of eggs for the week ending November 24th, 1917, were 4,071 cases, as compared with 6,790 for the previous week, and 33,638 for the same week last year. The total receipts since May 1st to date were 285,423 cases, as against 613,765 for the corresponding period in 1916. An unsettled feeling prevails in the egg market, due to the fact that dealers who have held eggs in storage for export are anxious to unload them and the indications are that these will be offered for sale in the near future. Strictly new laid and fresh eggs being scarce, prices increased and sales were made in a wholesale jobbing way as high as 60c and 65c for strictly new laid. Fresh eggs sold as high as 54c to 55c per dozen. The market for storage eggs was weak.

We quote current prices as follows:

Strictly new laid eggs	0.60	0.65
Fresh eggs	0.54	0.55
Fall fresh eggs	\$0.50	\$0.52
Selected cold storage	\$0.46	\$0.47
No. 1 cold storage	\$0.42	\$0.43
No. 2 cold storage	0.39	0.40

### MAPLE PRODUCTS.

No improvement is shown in the demand for maple products and the trade remains quiet with only a few jobbing sales for domestic account.

We quote prices as follows:

Extra choice syrup, 13-lb. tins	1.70	1.80
Choice syrup	1.55	1.65
Good syrup	1.40	1.50